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BACKGROUND - GREEK ELECTORAL SYSTEM

I. Anomaly of 163 ~~out~~ of ~~possible~~ 300 seats being won with ~~only~~ 46% of

popular vote stems from new Greek electoral law, specially passed

~~by~~ in Dec '55 to cover latest election.

A. Previous law (which worked on a "plurality takes all" basis)

gave Papagos' Rally 239 out of 300 seats with 49% of popular vote ('52).

B. Present law was framed *(BECAUSE IT WAS APPARENT)* ~~on theory~~ that nobody could repeat

this performance *(s)* ~~in view of collapse of Rally coalition.~~ *that fails to*

C. Law aimed at penalizing small splinters (any party/~~failing to~~

poll at least 15% of national vote is out), but rewarding

coalitions (groups of parties, working together, need only poll

25% of national vote to achieve representation).

II. Mechanics of law ~~involve division~~ *DIVIDE* of Greece's 41 electoral districts
(FOLLOWING)
into/four groups: the ~~10~~ *(TEN)* districts that/~~return~~ *elect* between 1 and 3 deputies;
(SIXTEEN)
the ~~16~~ districts that elect 4 to 6; the ~~11~~ *(ELEVEN)* that elect 7 to 9; and the ~~4~~ *(FOUR)*

~~four~~ urban areas (Athens, Salonika, Larissa and ~~Patras~~ *PIRAEUS*) that elect

11 or more deputies.

A. In the 1 to 3 deputy districts, plurality winner gets <u>all</u> seats.

B. In the 4 to 6 deputy districts, plurality winner gets all seats

but one, which is awarded to second-place winner (providing this

second-place party/or coalition has made its quota of 15%/or 25%/

of both district and national vote).

1. IF QUOTA NOT MADE, SEAT REVERTS TO PLURALITY WINNER.

C. In the 7x to 9 deputy districts, plurality winner gets all seats

but two, both of which go to second runner (assuming quota made).
however,
D. In the four urban districts,/seats go by direct proportional
rear
representation (again assuming that/~~third and fourth place~~

runners have made their national and local quotas).

THERE ARE/~~NOT ONLY~~ 2.2% OF NATIONAL VOTE, AND

WAS COUNTED OUT?

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II. Mechanics of law divide Greece's 41

electoral districts into following

four groups: the ten districts that

elect between 1 and 3 deputies; the

sixteen districts that elect 4 to 6; the

eleven that elect 7 to 9; and the four

urban areas (Athens, Salonika, Larissa

and Piraeus) that elect 11 or more

deputies.

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plurality winner gets all seats.

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place party /or coalition7 has made

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1. If quota not made, seat reverts

to plurality winner.

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two, both of which go to second
runner (assuming quota made).

D. In the four urban districts, however,
seats go by direct proportional
representation (again assuming that
runners have made their national
and local quotas).

1. Example: Markezinis' party got
only 2.2% of national vote, and
was counted out.

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